

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

MMed in Family Medicine (10250019)

Department Family Medicine

Minimum duration of study 4 years

Total credits 534

NQF level 09

Programme information

Please note:

- i. All MMed students must register for, and attend (TNM 802) Applied research methodology 802 satisfactorily, preferably during the intermediate phase/ after completion of Part 1 and before sitting for Part 2 of the MMed.
- ii. All MMed students must submit a dissertation (MMS 890) which must be assessed as satisfactory by an external examiner, or a research article that has been accepted for publication in a subsidised periodical. The student must be the first author of the article. An ordinary literature review will not be accepted. The research proposal must be approved by the MMed Protocol Committee prior to the intermediate exam (surgical disciplines) or otherwise within two years of enrolment (other disciplines). It is in the best interest of the candidate to complete the research component prior to the exit exam and if not possible, preferably to postpone the exam. If the exam is to be written in Semester 2 of the 4th year the dissertation should be submitted 1 September of the 4th year. If this is not the case, the supervisor should complete and sign the necessary documentation, stipulating that the candidate will complete the project within the next 3 to 6 months. The dissertation must be submitted prior to the taking of the CMSA fellowship examination.
- iii. A systematic literature review (Cochrane type) on an approved subject, which is undertaken in such a manner that bias is minimised, may be presented as an alternative to the dissertation for awarding the MMed (Public Health Medicine) degree. It requires, inter alia, a protocol with clearly formulated objectives and methods. Inclusion and exclusion methods for the study must be determined. Where applicable, the data must be summarised (meta analysis), with applicable statistical methods. This alternative is in special cases applicable to other MMed degrees.

Registrarship:

Inquire at the relevant head of department regarding the availability of registrarships for the specialisation.

Each student must prove to the University that he or she

- i. has successfully filled the required full-time training post for a period of four or five years according to the requirements of the relevant department at the Steve Biko Academic Hospital, (in case of pathology registrars) or Kalafong Hospital or at an institution recognised by the University as equivalent;
- ii. has completed the theoretical, practical, clinical and applicable training as stipulated;
- iii. has passed the prescribed written, oral, practical and/or clinical university examinations, and
- iv. has successfully completed the research component of the degree.

Admission requirements

1. Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (or equivalent) degree
or
relevant medical degree with modules equivalent to at least the first two years of the Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery degree
2. Currently registered as physician with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) and must have been registered for at least one year

Other programme-specific information

“Major subject” refers to the recognised field of study in Medicine in which the student specialises. The study of the major subject extends over four or five years, as prescribed by the relevant department.

Exemption

- i. The Faculty Board may grant partial exemption from the training and work on the grounds of comparable training and experience completed in another post or at another recognised institution – with the proviso that exemption from a maximum period of 18 months may be granted with regard to four-year and five-year programmes.
- ii. Exemption from a maximum of three years may be granted by the Department of Medical Oncology for the MMed in Medical Oncology [MMed(MedOnc)] on the grounds of the MMed(Int) or MMed(Paed) degree of this University, or experience recognised by the University as equivalent.
- iii. Exemption from a maximum of two years' clinical training may be granted in the Department of Forensic Medicine in respect of the MMed(Path) degree with specialisation Forensic Pathology, to a candidate already in possession of an MMed degree (or a degree deemed equivalent by the University) with specialisation in Anatomical Pathology.

Pass with distinction

The degree is conferred at the end of the prescribed training period (i.e. three, four or five years, respectively). The degree is conferred with distinction on a student who has obtained a final mark of at least 75% in his or her major subject.

General information

Registrars

Departments expect registrars to participate increasingly in the examining and treatment of patients in the hospital, both in-patients and out-patients, as well as performing and interpreting tests in the laboratory (where applicable); initially under supervision and later increasingly at their own responsibility. Lectures/symposia with closely related departments are organised, as well as discussions of literature, etc.



Curriculum: Year 1

Core modules

Family medicine 805 (HAK 805) - Credits: 354.00

Dissertation 890 (MMS 890) - Credits: 180.00

Applied research methodology 802 (TNM 802) - Credits: 0.00



Curriculum: Year 2

Core modules

Family medicine 805 (HAK 805) - Credits: 354.00

Dissertation 890 (MMS 890) - Credits: 180.00

Applied research methodology 802 (TNM 802) - Credits: 0.00



Curriculum: Year 3

Core modules

Family medicine 805 (HAK 805) - Credits: 354.00

Dissertation 890 (MMS 890) - Credits: 180.00

Applied research methodology 802 (TNM 802) - Credits: 0.00

Curriculum: Final year

Core modules

Family medicine 805 (HAK 805) - Credits: 354.00

Dissertation 890 (MMS 890) - Credits: 180.00

Applied research methodology 802 (TNM 802) - Credits: 0.00

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.